

State Representative Marilyn Giuliano

Dear Friends,

The 2005 legislative session for the most part was a good one for Lyme, Old Lyme, Old Saybrook and Westbrook.

Annual funding for local schools and road maintenance is up from last year and several grants were authorized for projects that benefit the 23rd District.

- \$486 million to buy 342 new passenger rail cars for the New Haven Line and provide maintenance facilities for them, and \$187 million for improvements on I-95 between North Stonington and Greenwich.
- \$3,645,720 for projects at the Old Saybrook Senior High School.
- \$1.5 million in state funding and a property exchange with the state to allow construction of a new train station and town garage in Westbrook.
- \$1,185,600 for several projects at the Old Saybrook Middle School.
- \$1.5 million to clean up state property on Ferry Road in Old Saybrook. The parcel will be transferred to the town and used for recreational purposes.
- \$500,000 to help fund a \$3,204,898 renovation and expansion project at the Westbrook Public Library.
- \$20,000 to help pay for the construction of a playground at the Town Woods Athletic Fields in Lyme and Old Lyme.
- Grants amounting to \$18,789 and \$10,405 for the Florence Griswold Museum in Old Lyme and \$15,886 for the Lyme Academy College of Fine Arts' Open Community Program.

Thank you for the honor and privilege of representing you at our state legislature in Hartford.



From left, Old Saybrook First Selectman Mike Pace and Selectman Bill Peace discuss future recreational use of Ferry Road property with Rep. Giuliano.



Representative

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LEGISLATIVE REPORT



State Representative

MARILYN GIULIANO

Proudly Serving the 23rd District

Lyme ★ Old Lyme ★ Old Saybrook ★ Westbrook



Rep. Giuliano speaks on the floor of the House during the 2005 Legislative Session.

PROTECTING YOUR INTERESTS

Voting for Fiscal Responsibility

During the 2005 session, as in previous years, I worked on behalf of the average family. I know how hard people work in Connecticut, which has the highest federal, state and local taxes per person as well as the largest per capita state debt.

Protecting Property Rights

I voted to support Connecticut property owners in the wake of a recent Supreme Court decision allowing the City of New London to seize residents' homes to make way for an economic development project. I voted for a proposal to limit the authority of state and local governments to take property through eminent domain.

Fighting for Fair School Funding

I continue to fight for a more equitable distribution of state education aid to our towns to enhance the quality of education in our public schools. Under the current school aid formula the state sends \$9,000 per pupil to students in the cities, while suburban communities receive as little as \$100 per student.

Ethics Reform

The State Ethics Commission was abolished and replaced with a Citizens Ethics Advisory Board and Office of State Ethics under an act I supported.

Reforming the State Contracting Process

Governor Rell implemented reforms that will restore trust in the integrity of the state contracting process by ensuring contracts are awarded on their merits, not in return for bribes and favors.

Campaign Finance

I have worked to remove special interest money from political campaigns for many years and will continue to fight for this kind of reform in the future. Strict financial limits and full disclosure are a better approach than using our tax dollars for political campaigns.

Preserving Open Space

Funding to provide open space acquisition grants to towns totaling \$7.5 million in 2006 and \$5 million in 2007 was authorized under legislation I supported. The same measure provides \$6 million in 2006 and \$5 million in 2007 for the Recreational and National Heritage Trust Program for recreation, open space, and resource protection.

Farmland Preservation

I voted for a measure that funds the farmland preservation program in the amount of \$8 million in 2006 and \$10 million in 2007. Under the program, the state buys development rights to farms to keep them from being used for non-agricultural purposes.

Bi-state Long Island Sound Protection

I cosponsored a law that creates a New York - Connecticut Committee to help protect Long Island Sound. The committee would recommend legislation to avoid, minimize, and mitigate the impact of proposed industrial or other uses of the Sound's public trust resources.

Lobster Restoration Program

Another act I cosponsored requires the state to establish a lobster restoration program which includes marking the tails of mature female lobsters that are landed and released in order to increase lobster egg production.

Protecting Eight Mile River

A portion of the Eight Mile River watershed will be protected while it is being evaluated by the federal government for designation as a Wild and Scenic River under a law I cosponsored.

Motorboat Noise Mitigation

To address the problem of excessive motorboat noise, I cosponsored a new law that increases the fine for refusing to submit to a motorboat noise test and provides for higher fines for repeat offenses.

Boating Safety

Persons whose safe boating or personal watercraft certificates are suspended or revoked are prohibited from operating a vessel under another law I cosponsored.

Clean Diesel Plan

I supported an act requiring the state to develop a plan to reduce the health risks from diesel pollution and to meet federal air quality standards for fine particulate matter.



Rep. Giuliano presents a General Assembly citation and Governor's proclamation in honor of Center School's retiring principal Adam Burrows.

Several Old Lyme school children attended the event.



Town Woods Building Committee Chairman Bob Dunn, Rep. Giuliano and Old Lyme First Selectman Tim Griswold, take part in a ribbon cutting for the Park and Recreation center at the Town Woods Complex.

Clean Car Incentive Program

I cosponsored legislation to require the Department of Environmental Protection to develop a plan to reduce the sales tax for new motor vehicles that have low greenhouse gas emissions.

Consumer Protection

I cosponsored legislation prohibiting the sale of gift certificates with expiration dates to enable people who receive gift cards to redeem them when they choose to do so. I also voted for laws to help protect consumers from becoming victims of identity theft and bank fraud and to prohibit cell phone companies from disclosing a customer's cell phone number, name, or address to another person without the subscriber's permission.

Coverage for Breast Cancer Screening

I voted to require insurers to offer both mammography and magnetic resonance imaging as options for breast cancer screening for women with family histories of breast cancer.

Nursing Home Fire Safety

To ensure the safety of nursing home residents, I voted for a law that requires nursing homes to install fire extinguishing systems by July 31, 2007, and requires them to be installed throughout the nursing home.

Protecting Citizen Soldiers

I supported legislation that provides workers compensation benefits to members of the Connecticut National Guard when they are called to active duty.

Preserving Eligibility for STEAP Grants

I voted for a law enabling towns to continue qualifying for Small Town Economic Assistance Program (STEAP) grants when they no longer meet all the program's eligibility criteria.

State Budget

The legislature adopted a \$31-billion two-year budget that raised spending 9 percent the first year and 12 percent over two years. The budget increases taxes on employers and violates the state's constitutional spending cap. I could not support the excessive spending and tax increases this budget mandates.